

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP AT HOME**

**19<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 10.30am**

Welcome to worship everyone  
We are united through Christ

### Let's begin with prayer....

Ever loving, all powerful, all embracing God  
Living in us, our breath, our heartbeat  
Who shows us how far your love reaches by the  
stories of Jesus life on earth, human and divine.  
We praise you that at the end of His life, Jesus was  
not willing to stand down from all He had taught  
about your way of loving, healing, helping, serving,  
forgiving and standing up for what is just. That  
Jesus Christ died, to rise again. Time and place no  
longer restrict Jesus presence, Christ with us  
always. AMEN

**THE KING OF LOVE** my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His and He is mind forever

Where streams of living water flow  
My ransomed soul He leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me,  
And on His shoulder gently laid,  
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
Thy unction grace bestoweth:  
And O what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever.

© Henry Williams Baker

### **BIBLE READING**

Jesus told them many things in parables, saying:  
"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was  
scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and  
the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky  
places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang

up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when  
the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and  
they withered because they had no root. Other  
seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked  
the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it  
produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times  
what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

**REFLECTION** - I believe this story can give  
us so much confidence and hope as disciples,  
especially the times when we've wondered  
whether what we've said or done has made  
any difference at all.

You see some seeds sprout really quickly,  
others take a long time to grow. I went to  
Sunday school from a toddler, and yet it took  
until I was 28 to kneel and make my own  
commitment to Jesus Christ. I'm sure my  
parents, Sunday school teachers, brownie,  
guide and youth club leaders, as well as  
church family thought their words had fallen  
on deaf ears, but God had other plans and  
eventually the scattered seeds took roots.

We must be faithful in scattering the seeds,  
and this is exactly what Jesus did. When he  
told this parable the short terms affects were  
probably, that some of his words fell on deaf  
ears, some people may have given lip service  
and then walked away, others would have had  
a short term change of heart, and some truly  
heard and turned their lives around to follow  
The Way, Jesus.

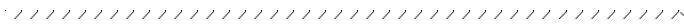
We are not told how many became followers of  
Jesus when He was alive, but we do hear that  
on the day of Pentecost, when Jesus was no  
longer seen and after 3 years of teaching and  
sowing, thousands came to believe. Even  
Jesus had to wait for the seeds He had sown  
to take root.

Almost every day I hear stories of seeds being  
sown by phone, letter, e-mail, & face to face  
meetings. Seeds of the Word of Jesus to the  
searching. seeds of kindness and generosity  
to the needy, seeds of hope to the lost, seeds  
of encouragement to the disillusioned. It  
reminds us that this parable of Jesus is active  
and alive, and all we need to do is remain  
faithful in scattering the seeds.



**I was recently sent these words .....**

“What do you mean by “reopen”? Since when did the church close? Our buildings have been closed, but the church is not a building! We are a living, breathing body. Our church is active in so many different ways. Sunday services were just one part of church, yes the part we miss dearly, but we never closed the church. The church is a family, a people, not a place! We’re an army of servants, not Sunday attenders. The church operates 168 hours a week! The church is not just for gathering, but for scattering.



**LET’S PRAY** - In faith we pray to you God, you are always ready to hear what we ask.

We thank you Lord for your Church throughout the world, for everything You are still giving us to do. We pray that the seeds we are sowing will one day begin to grow and your Kingdom on earth will flourish.

We pray for your world in this time of challenge and change. We ask that we will truly become united and see ourselves as you do, as one humanity together. We pray for Your wisdom and love in all who are making decisions.

We pray for those we love and know who are facing difficult days, decisions, and futures.

We remember in prayer those who have lost their lives, and those who are bereaved.

We thank you for the seeds of your love sown in our own lives.

We pray in silence .....

God of heaven on earth gives us all wisdom to know what your will is and courage to do it. May all our words declare your love, and may they be backed up by our works. AMEN



**AND WE SING.....**

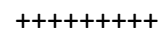
**MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE.**

Where there is hatred let me bring Your love;  
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord;  
And where there’s doubt, true faith in You.

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of Your peace.  
Where there’s despair in life let me bring hope;  
Where there is darkness, only light;  
And where there’s sadness, ever joy.

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*



**Our offering** - Generous God, we sit remembering your abundant blessings to us and thank you. We offer to you now our gifts or money, and we ask you to bless those sent and those laid aside. AMEN

**AND SO WE SING TOGETHER**

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus is His name.*

1. He possessed no riches, no home to lay his head  
He fasted in the desert, he gave to others bread
2. He reached out and touched them, the blind,  
the deaf, the lame  
He spoke and listened gladly to anyone who came.
3. Some turned away in anger with hatred in  
the eye  
They tried him and condemned him, then led him  
out to die.
4. “Father, now forgive them”,  
up on the cross he said;  
In three more days he was alive  
And risen from the dead.
5. He still comes to his people, his life moves  
through the lands.  
He uses us for speaking, he touches with our hands

**A Blessing**

Go into the world in the name of Christ  
In the power of the Spirit,  
to sow seeds of God’s love. We do not go alone,  
because Christ goes with us. AMEN

And the blessing of God, Father Son and Spirit, be  
with us all, with those we love, and those we pray  
for, now and forever more AMEN